# IDAHO LEADER



# TIPS FOR INVITING INDUSTRY SPEAKERS

## **Next Steps Idaho Connections**

- Idaho has negotiated a special rate for schools to gain access to: nextstepsidahoconnections.nepris.com/
- You can use this platform to expand lessons beyond textbooks and give students a first-hand look at the world of work.
   Whether you are looking for an architect to model the use of angles and measurements in the development of blueprints, seeking an HR professional to discuss the importance of first impressions, or requesting a professional forester to explain how satellite technology is used to manage our forests, this platform is for you.

#### Finding an Industry Speaker

- Ask any career technical education teachers in your school or district if they know professionals in their industry who would be interested in speaking to students.
- Ask other faculty and staff in your school if they know professionals who would be interested in speaking to students; many spouses, partners, or other family members and friends may be good candidates.

## Choosing a Location and Time

- Students tend to be more engaged if the speaker is sharing in a smaller group setting, rather than school-wide.
- Choose a space that is welcoming and comfortable for students, such as the school library.
- Lunch time may be a good option because it does not detract from class time, but students will need to eat lunch during the presentation.

# Advertising to and Engaging with Students

- Providing pizza for attendees at a lunch time speaker event is very motivating!
- Create a sign up for interested students to reserve their spot, especially if space is limited.
- Let teachers of related classes know about the speaker, so they can promote attendance to their students. A flyer to hang in some classrooms or public areas of the school may be helpful.
- Encourage the guest speaker to bring something that represents their career, such as a tool, safety gear, or piece of equipment.
- A physical object that students can observe and/or interact with will make the presentation more engaging!

Powered by the Idaho Workforce Development Council and Idaho's employers.

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Leader@wdc.idaho.gov



